Express Mail No. EL 913696010 US November 29, 2001

delete line 26.

Page 2, delete lines 1 and 2.

Page 3, after line 8, insert --EXAMPLE--.

In the Claims:

Please delete claims 1 to 11 and add the following new claims:

An or gold a cysteine

556/110, 116

A61K621

3A15

12. A method for producing a cyanide-free solution of a gold compound that is suitable for gold electrodeposition baths, comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting at least one of a cysteine and a cysteinate with at least one of tetrachloroauric acid and a tetrachloroaurate in a first aqueous medium;

(b) separating a resulting precipitate from the first aqueous medium; and

(c) dissolving the precipitate in a second aqueous medium with elevation of the pH to 12.0-14.0.

13. A method in accordance with claim 12, and further comprising the step of washing the separated precipitate until it is free of chloride.

14. A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the molar ratio of cysteine/cysteinate to the tetrachlorogold compound is 3.1 to 10.1.

15. A method in accordance with claim 12, including carrying out the reacting step at a temperature of $T < +30°C$.

16. A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the dissolving step includes raising the pH to 13.5.

17. A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the reacting step includes using potassium L-cysteinate as the cysteinate.

A3

18. A solution of a gold compound produced by:

(a) reacting at least one of a cysteine and a cysteinate with at least one of tetrachloroauric acid and a tetrachloroaurate in a first aqueous medium;

(b) separating a resulting precipitate from the first aqueous medium; and

(c) dissolving the precipitate in a second aqueous medium with elevation of the pH to 12.0-14.0.

Express Mail No. EL 913696010 US November 29, 2001

19. A gold electrodeposition bath comprising a solution of a gold compound produced by:

(a) reacting at least one of a cysteine and a cysteinate with at least one of tetrachloroauric acid and a tetrachloroaurate in a first aqueous medium;

(b) separating a resulting precipitate from the first aqueous medium; and

(c) dissolving the precipitate in a second aqueous medium with elevation of the pH to 12.0-14.0.

20. A method for producing a solution of a gold compound that is suitable for gold electrodeposition gold baths as a precursor for production of gold-containing heterogeneous catalysts, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting at least one of a cysteine and a cysteinate with at least one of tetrachloroauric acid and a tetrachloroaurate in a first aqueous medium;

(b) separating a resulting precipitate from the first aqueous medium; and

(c) dissolving the precipitate in a second aqueous medium with elevation of the pH to 12.0-14.0.